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Army Family Housing Study Nearing Reporting Stage

A family housing study directed by Army Secretary Stanley R. Resor is nearing final stages with findings and recommendations of a civilian-military study group due by the end of December.

Mr. Resor formed the group last summer with appointment of Army secretariat and Army chief of staff representatives and called for a review of studies already made or underway and an evaluation of whether available information was current and adequate.

The secretary said family housing is among matters of greatest importance to Army's continued well being. "If we are to acquire and retain high quality personnel, we must be able to offer a fair and attractive career package. Family housing is an important part of this package."

Some study areas are almost finished. Members have already visited 14 installations and only two remain on the itinerary.

The group used questionnaires and other means of gathering attitudes of career uniformed personnel and their wives.

DOD Issues Policy Statement On Natural Resource Conservation

Defense Department has underscored a policy of continuing efforts to wisely use the natural resources in the more than 27 million acres of land under DOD control.

The policy statement was made in late October to mark the 10th anniversary of DOD's natural resources conservation management program.

First policy directive entitled "Hunting and Fishing on Military Reservations" was issued Oct. 3, 1956. Since then the program has been expanded to include fish and wildlife, forestry, pollution control, soil and water, outdoor recreation and natural beauty.

Today's DOD natural resources program is also one in which the military commander closely cooperates with Federal, State and local and private conservation organizations, as about 17 million acres of land under military administration are in multiple use management programs.

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MOBILE STRIKE BASES—The attack carriers USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CVA-42) and USS Intrepid (CVA-11), background, steam at high speed in the Gulf of Tonkin. With other attack carriers they provide a large part of the U. S. air strikes against North Vietnamese military targets.

Flaws in Saturn, Apollo Spacecraft Delay Nation's Man-on-Moon Program

Flaws in both Saturn V rocket and Apollo lunar spacecraft have touched off schedule changes in this country's "man-on-the-moon" program.

Structural cracks have been found in the large hydrogen tanks in the second stage of two Saturn V launch vehicles, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration reports.

Another trouble is one service module fuel tank that failed structurally, with the cause unidentified.

In the first spacecraft, the water boiler in the environmental control failed qualification trials.

NASA said it had to rearrange the flight schedule because of these troubles.

Basic change is to follow up AS-204—a manned Earth Orbiter—with AS-206—an unmanned flight of the Apollo lunar module. Third will be AS-205 and AS–208, a dual launch in which a manned Apollo command and service module and an unmanned lunar module will be launched a day apart to rendezvous and check out the lunar module.

The first Apollo mission—AS-205—remains scheduled for sometime during the first quarter of 1967.

Washington Memos

COMING CAPE KENNEDY launch of the first of five Applications Technology Satellites (ATS-B) has been set for early December. Plans call for attainment of an equatorial and stationary orbit above the Pacific. The satellite will be capable of transmitting black and white and color television pictures to North America, Japan and Australia.

POSTAL CLERKS at Bien Hoa AB, Vietnam, sort and process an estimated 29,000 pounds of mail daily. Breakdown shows an average of 20,000 pounds incoming and 9,000 pounds headed stateside.

MARS (MILITARY AFFILIATE Radio System) station at Ft. Sill, Okla., has new transmitter in operation providing direct voice communication with South Vietnam. It will permit soldiers in South Vietnam to call family and friends in the United States free of charge. Person being called in States pays only for call to Ft. Sill. Other similar stations are at Ft. Sam Houston, Ft. Hood and Ft. Bliss, Tex.

NAVAL AEROSPACE Medical Institute at the Naval Medical Center, Pensacola, Fla., has been designated as the physical examination and psychological testing facility for prospective Naval test pilot school students. Officials said the examinations will be more comprehensive than test pilots have had before and will require week for completion.

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATIONS awarded to three Republic of Vietnam units—37th Ranger Bn, 934th Regional Force Company, and 2nd platoon, Battery "B", 21st Artillery Bn., 2nd Inf. Div. — for "extraordinary heroism in action" against VC force of greatly superior size near Thach Tru in Quang Ngai Province.

LONGEST LOW LEVEL flight at supersonic speed and under electronic control has been made by an Air Force F-111A at Edwards AFB, Calif. The 15-minute flight at a constant ground clearance of less than 1,000 feet and faster than the speed of sound marked two "firsts" for American aircraft and utilized terrain following radar (TFR) system in its dash across mountainous terrain of southern Nevada and California.

BLOOD DONOR RESPONSE at Tinker AFB, Okla., was overwhelming recently, including a pint marked "From the Unknown."

10,000TH PATIENT has been admitted to 1st Logistical Command's 3rd Field Hospital in Saigon. Hospital has been in operation in Vietnam for 19 months, provides direct medical support for 1st and 25th Infantry Divisions, and 196th Light Infantry and 173rd Airborne Brigades.

ALERT WORKMAN Gerald Hicks at Travis AFB, Calif., tore down salvage-bound C-124 wheel assemblies, returned the brake drums to stock and saved the Air Force an estimated $1,579.

AFROTC DISTINGUISHED graduates who began extended active duty between April 1-June 30 of this year, and who have not previously been considered for Regular appointment based on this status, will be considered for appointment in the Regular Air Force during January 1967.

SOIL-CEMENT BASE covered by aluminum-matting used by Air Force engineers to construct a runway at Tuy Hoa capable of handling all tactical and support aircraft in Vietnam.

MARINE CORPS RETAILORING its All-Marine Corps and Interservice Athletic Championships for 1967 to expand and place more emphasis on intramural competition and to encourage greater participation. For full details, commanders were advised by Marine Corps Headquarters to read Marine Corps Order 1710.4K of Oct. 11, 1966.

MAJ. GEN. LEWIS J. FIELDS has assumed command of the 5th Marine Division, replacing Maj. Gen. Robert E. Cushman Jr., who will become Camp Pendleton's CG and CG of 4th Marine Division headquarters nucleus there. Gen. Fields recently returned from Vietnam where he was CG of the 1st Marine Division.

U.S. AID TO Vietnam in next 12 months will provide upwards of 500,000 tons of rice and other food grains, public health outlays will almost double, 4,000 new teachers will be trained and 8 million more text books will be distributed.

NASA CLOSING NIGERIA tracking station at Kano following conclusion of Gemini program. Nigeria station will not be needed with the reconfiguration of the space tracking network for the coming Apollo program. Kano became operational Oct. 19, 1960, functioning in both the Mercury and Gemini programs.

ARMY'S STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS Command has new Deputy Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Joyce B. James, formerly DCS/Operations for STRATCOM. General James assumed duties Nov. 1, succeeding Brig. Gen. Walter B. Bess, who has retired.

ON JANUARY FIRST the AFSC of all Air Force flight mechanics will be incorporated into a single career field sub-division with flight engineers. Change will result in airmen performing flight duties being retained in aircrew positions in every unit of assignment, until disqualified for flying status.

NINETY-SIX GRADUATES from the latest class of Army's Military Academy Preparatory School, Ft. Belvoir, Va., are now attending Military Academy at West Point.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Rural Pacification Efforts To Get More Support In RVN

President Johnson has been told that the government of Vietnam is moving ahead rapidly with concrete plans to provide the continuous local security needed for rural-development pacification efforts.

"Prime Minister Ky and President Thieu told me the GVN intends to allot the bulk of its regular forces to this mission," Presidential staffer Robert Komer reported to Mr. Johnson.

He said new plans have been drawn up for 1967 and that "several ARVN/U.S. mobile training teams have already been assembled in Saigon to receive the new doctrine and then provide on-the-job training to ARVN troops in the field."

Mr. Komer also reported that General Westmoreland plans to strengthen the U.S. advisory effort and support for revolutionary development by assigning more senior officers to advisory tasks and by putting greater emphasis on road and canal clearing.

Pointing out some American units will participate in the clear and hold operation, he said, "But this will normally be only a secondary mission for U.S. forces."

Mr. Komer, who followed up on the Manila Conference, termed the over-all GVN program announced at the conference as one of the pluses of the talks and deserving more attention than it has received.

Army's Com-Z Headquarters To Move 'Soon as Possible'

Headquarters of the U.S. Army Communication Zone in Europe will move from Orleans, France, to Worms, Germany, "as soon as possible."

The U.S. Army Supply and Maintenance Agency, one of the Com-Z major components, now located at Verdun and Maison Fort moves to Zweibrucken.

Defense Department said the moves it announced Nov. 22 "will begin as soon as possible with both units operational at their new locations by March 31, 1967."

This represented the third major step in rearranging the U.S. command structure in Europe. DOD announced earlier that U.S. European Command will move from Paris to Stuttgart in early 1967. Prior to that, it was announced that Seventh Army, now at Stuttgart, would leave there and combine with U.S. Army Europe at Heidelberg.

DOD said the move was the last major Army headquarters to leave France.

Both moves go into existing American facilities and both locations were selected after consultation with the Federal Republic of Germany.

NEW HOSPITAL COMPLETED—An inflatable shelter rises and marks the completion of the 1st Logistical Command's newest surgical hospital at Tay Ninh. Major Charles M. Lyon, 45th Surgical Hospital CO, and Richard Schmitt, Garrett Corp. project engineer, view the final air conditioned shelter that is capable of holding 20 patients.

Atomic Support Agency Head Urges Nuclear Non-proliferation Agreements

Director of the Defense Atomic Support Agency points out that one of the most difficult tasks in conducting our foreign affairs is to convince the other nations of the world their best interests would be served if further nuclear proliferation can be stopped.

Chances for a nuclear exchange increase in proportion to the spread of nuclear weapons among nations, said Air Force Lt. Gen. H. C. Donnelly before the World Affairs Council Nov. 17 at Pittsburgh.

"The most effective means to prevent additional spread is a non-proliferation agreement accepted by and adhered to by all nations of the world," he said.

Gen. Donnelly said U.S. national policy since the end of WW II has been to halt the spread of this capability to other nations.

But he noted that nuclear weapons are psychologically potent, symbols of both military power and scientific achievement.

"The nations of the world may think they see in the change of the U.S.-Russian relationship the diplomatic value of a nuclear capability," he said. "What they don't see, perhaps, is the inherent risk."

Gen. Donnelly's speech was entitled, "A Military Look at Nuclear Proliferation." But he pointed out that, as Defense Secretary McNamara said last May, our national security is not exclusively a military problem.

Air Force Program To Expand in FY-68

Air Force now has available 149 Career Development Courses (CDC) for specialties covering 76 percent of the airmen now in formal on-the-job training.

Correspondence courses, written by Air Training Command, are for the career development channel of the Dual Channel OJT program. Courses are edited, published and administered by the Extension Course Institute of the Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

There are 297,000 enrolments in the program that include airmen who are: (1) either in OJT, which requires mandatory enrolment in the appropriate CDC; or (2) enrolled voluntarily to broaden their knowledge in related career fields.

Program requires a total of 249 CDCs be written and published by December 1967.

3,500 Monthly Army OCS Input To Meet FY-67 Requirements

Army says its expanded OCS program for FY67 will require a monthly input of 3,500 candidates to meet the goal of providing 20,000 officers for the year.

This monthly input almost equals the entire FY66 output of 3,674 officers.

Army says the magnitude can be realized only by comparing the months of July 1965 and July 1966. Three OCS schools in July 1965 graduated 85 officers. This July, nine OCS schools graduated 566 officers.

Lt. Col. Promotion Scheduled For 2,223 Air Force Officers

Air Force's second lieutenant colonel selection list this year carries a Nov. 21 promotion effective date for 2,223 officers.

An additional 505 lieutenant colonel promotions are expected by March 1967 with announcements on a monthly basis as vacancies occur.

FULL CHEST—Maj. David L. Schneekloth of Redstone, Mont., saw plenty of action in Vietnam. After returning, he was decorated with more than a dozen medals by Lt. Gen. Herbert B. Thatcher, ADC commander, at Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo., where the major is now assigned.

737 Officers Are Graduated From Lackland AFB School

Air Force has awarded commissions to 737 officers graduating from Class 67-C of the Officer Training School, Lackland AFB, Tex.

Total entering active duty was 719, including 21 WAF officers and 37 former airmen who reached OTS through the Airman Education and Commissioning Program.

Other graduates were seven from the Air National Guard and 11 from Air Force Reserve units.

Among those entering active duty are 368 attending technical schools and 190 in flying training.

AEC Planning 350-ton A-Blast At Mississippi Testing Site

A 350-ton nuclear detonation experiment is planned in a cavity formed in the Tatum Salt Dome, near Hattiesburg, Miss., by a previous underground nuclear detonation.

The test, named Project Sterling, is scheduled for 6 a.m., Nov. 29.

Computers Forecast As Exchange Aids

Army and Air Force Exchange Service believes that its future merchandising operations will be best served by professional buyers backed up by maximum use of computers.

AAFES director, Army Brig. Gen. Joseph S. Hardin, said most CONUS exchanges cannot afford a buyer but that professional buyers at each area support center working for a large group of exchanges will be the way of doing business within two years.

Gen. Hardin said central buying should result in fewer complaints about PX operations to commanders and the obvious improvement in merchandise quality and availability.

The AAFES chief was speaking at an early November clothing clinic held in Dallas and he said that by Fall he hoped the new headquarters facility in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas would be open.

AAFES headquarters is now in New York.

Special Advisory Board Completes Annapolis Study

A special 12-member board, convened to study the curriculum, faculty and educational methods of the U.S. Naval Academy, has completed a three-day meeting.

The group, known as the Academic Advisory Board, submitted a full report to the academy superintendent giving recommendations and findings regarding academic affairs.

101st Airborne Division To Hold FTX in December

A controlled counter-insurgency field training exercise for the 101st Airborne Div and supporting units will be held at Ft. Campbell, Ky., Dec. 5-9.

FTX Eagle Prey II will include aggressor forces trained and supervised by 7th Special Forces Group, Ft. Bragg, N.C., who will act as guerrilla forces.

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